

1. A computer readable storage medium comprising computer readable program code containing a programming interface for managing and conducting fast replication operations, the programming interface comprising:
 - an add to snapshot set function configured to add snapshot criteria to a snapshot set; and
 - an execute snapshot set function configured to initiate a plurality of fast replications operations as specified by the snapshot set.
2. The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the snapshot criteria comprises at least one data field selected from the group consisting of a source volume indicator, a target volume indicator, an auto-select target indicator, a partial volume indicator, a source extents indicator, a redundancy level indicator, and background copy indicator.
3. The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the programming interface further comprises:
 - a create snapshot set function configured to create a snapshot set; and
 - a delete snapshot set function configured to delete a specified snapshot set.
4. The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the programming interface further comprises:
 - a remove from snapshot set function configured to delete specified snapshot criteria from the snapshot set; and
 - a terminate snapshot set function configured to terminate the plurality of fast replications operations specified by the snapshot set.

1 5. The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the programming
2 interface further comprises a get snapshot set function configured to provide information
3 regarding a specified snapshot set.

4
5 6. An apparatus for managing and conducting fast replication operations, the apparatus
6 comprising:

7 a snapshot management module configured to add snapshot criteria to a snapshot
8 set; and

9 a snapshot execution module configured to initiate a plurality of fast replications
10 operations as specified by the snapshot set.

11
12 7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the snapshot management module is further
13 configured to manage snapshot criteria comprising at least one data field selected from
14 the group consisting of a source volume indicator, a target volume indicator, an auto-
15 select target indicator, a partial volume indicator, a source extents indicator, a redundancy
16 level indicator, and a background copy indicator.

17
18 8. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the snapshot execution module is further
19 configured to terminate the plurality of fast replications operations specified by the
20 snapshot set.

21
22 9. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the snapshot management module is further
23 configured to manage a list of controllers associated with the snapshot set.

24
25 10. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the snapshot management module is further
26 configured to create a snapshot set and delete a specified snapshot set.

27

1 11. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the snapshot management module is further
2 configured to delete specified snapshot criteria from the snapshot set and the snapshot
3 execution module is further configured to terminate the plurality of fast replications
4 operations specified by the snapshot set.

5 12. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the snapshot management module is further
6 configured to provide information regarding a specified snapshot set.
7

8 13. An apparatus for managing and conducting fast replication operations, the apparatus
9 comprising:

10 means for adding snapshot criteria to a snapshot set; and

11 means for initiating a plurality of fast replications operations as specified by the
12 snapshot set.
13

14 14. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

15 means for managing a list of controllers associated with the snapshot set;

16 means for creating the snapshot set;

17 means for deleting a specified snapshot set;

18 means for removing specified snapshot criteria from the snapshot set;

19 means for terminating the plurality of fast replications operations specified by the
20 snapshot set; and

21 means for providing information regarding a specified snapshot set.
22

23 15. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising means for managing snapshot criteria
24 comprising data fields selected from the group consisting of a source volume indicator, a
25 target volume indicator, an auto-select target indicator, a partial volume indicator, a
26 source extents indicator, a redundancy level indicator, and a background copy indicator.
27

1 16. A method for managing and conducting fast replication operations, the method
2 comprising:

3 adding snapshot criteria to a snapshot set; and

4 initiating a plurality of fast replication operations as specified by the snapshot set.
5

6 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the snapshot criteria comprises at least one data
7 field selected from the group consisting of a source volume indicator, a target volume
8 indicator, an auto-select target indicator, a partial volume indicator, a source extents
9 indicator, a redundancy level indicator, and a background copy indicator.
10

11 18. The method of claim 16, further comprising conducting an operation selected
12 from the group consisting of:

13 creating the snapshot set;

14 deleting a specified snapshot set;

15 providing information regarding a specified snapshot set;

16 deleting specified snapshot criteria from the snapshot set; and

17 terminating the plurality of fast replications operations specified by the snapshot
18 set.
19

20 19. The method of claim 18, wherein adding snapshot criteria to a snapshot set is
21 conducted using an API.
22

23 20. The method of claim 16, wherein adding snapshot criteria to a snapshot set and
24 initiating a plurality of fast replication operations as specified by the snapshot set
25 are conducted across multiple volumes and multiple controllers.
26
27

1 21. The method of claim 16, wherein initiating a plurality of fast replication
2 operations may be conducted by any one of a plurality of servers in a storage system.

3
4 22. The method of claim 16, further comprising managing a list of controllers
5 associated with the snapshot set.

6
7 23. A system for managing and conducting fast replication operations, the system
8 comprising:
9 a plurality of storage volumes configured to store data;
10 at least one storage controller configured to manage the storage volumes; and
11 the at least one storage controller further configured to add snapshot criteria to a
12 snapshot set and initiate a plurality of fast replications operations as specified by the
13 snapshot set.

14
15 24. The system of claim 23, wherein the at least one storage controller is further
16 configured to manage snapshot criteria comprising data fields selected from the group
17 consisting of a source volume indicator, a target volume indicator, an auto-select target
18 indicator, a partial volume indicator, a source extents indicator, a redundancy level
19 indicator, and a background copy indicator.

1 25. The system of claim 23, wherein the at least one storage controller is further
2 configured to:
3 manage a list of controllers associated with the snapshot set;
4 remove specified snapshot criteria from the snapshot set;
5 terminate the plurality of fast replications operations specified by the snapshot set;
6 and
7 provide information regarding a specified snapshot set.
8

9 26. A computer readable storage medium comprising computer readable program code
10 for managing and conducting fast replication operations, the program code configured to:
11 add snapshot criteria to a snapshot set; and
12 initiate a plurality of fast replications operations as specified by the snapshot set.
13

14 27. The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein the computer readable
15 program code is further configured for managing snapshot criteria comprising data fields
16 selected from the group consisting of a source volume indicator, a target volume
17 indicator, an auto-select target indicator, a partial volume indicator, a source extents
18 indicator, a redundancy level indicator, and a background copy indicator.
19

20 28. The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, further comprising computer
21 readable program code configured to:
22 manage a list of controllers associated with the snapshot set;
23 remove specified snapshot criteria from the snapshot set;
24 terminate the plurality of fast replications operations specified by the snapshot set;
25 and
26 provide information regarding a specified snapshot set.
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